

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, farmer's markets offer access to fresh, locally grown vegetables and produce, and contribute to a more sustainable local food economy; and

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Food Center's 2011 Central Texas Foodshed Assessment found many East Austin zip codes lack full-service grocery stores and recommended starting farmer's markets in neighborhoods with barriers to healthy food access; and

WHEREAS, for more than three years, the HOPE Farmers Market has served as a platform to introduce East Austin residents to surrounding area farmers, local artists and musicians, and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, Plaza Saltillo is a community gathering place on Austin's East Side built through coordination of multiple governmental entities and local community groups; and

WHEREAS, the HOPE Farmers Market's use of Plaza Saltillo would provide fresh, locally grown vegetables and produce to help mitigate barriers to healthy food access on Austin's East Side; and

WHEREAS, price was found to be the most important factor affecting East Austin residents' grocery store purchases, and with the new location HOPE Farmers Market plans to accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit cards to help address that issue for low-income residents; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to amend Resolution No. 021003-40 to add the HOPE Farmers Market at Plaza Saltillo as a City co-sponsored event.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to include the HOPE Farmers Market at Plaza Saltillo in the 2013 Austin Farmer's Market ordinance, which will waive certain fees and costs for City co-sponsored farmer's markets.

ADOPTED: _____, 2012 **ATTEST:** _____
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk